City of Lafayette Staff Report

For:	City Council
By:	Leah C. Greenblat, Transportation Planner
Date Written:	July 21, 2009
Meeting Date:	July 27, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to Submit a Safe Routes to Transit Grant Application

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Introduction / Discussion

The Circulation Commission met on July 20, 2009 and considered a proposed grant project submittal for Safe Routes to Transit program funding. These grant funds are available through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Regional Measure 2 which previously raised bridge tolls by $1. Projects must demonstrate a strong link between improving access to transit and decreasing single occupancy vehicles on toll bridges. Members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the Circulation Commission supported staff's recommendation to forward a recommendation of support to the City Council to submit a grant proposal with the following elements:

- ☐ Complete missing gaps to provide a continuous sidewalk on the west side of Happy Valley Road between Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Deer Hill and agreed.
- ☐ Installation of a crosswalk and street lighting at Happy Valley and Deer Hill Roads
- ☐ Installation of a crosswalk, curb bulbs, in-pavement flashing lights and street lighting at the southernmost BART driveway
- ☐ Installation of shared lane markings or sharrows on Happy Valley Road between Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Deer Hill Road

At various times in the recent past, the Commission has considered and supported the first three elements of the proposed grant application. The Bikeways Master Plan includes a project to designate Happy Valley Road as a Class 3 Bike Route. The use of sharrows along the proposed segment is consistent with and an enhancement of the plan.

Fiscal Impact

While the Safe Routes to Transit grant program does not require a funding match, proposed projects that do include a funding match are more likely to be funded. Although staff has not yet developed a cost-estimate to accompany the grant application, at this time we recommend and estimate that a local match of approximately $34,000, which would be 10% of the construction estimate.

Recommendation

1. Authorize staff to submit a Safe Routes to Transit grant application for the project described above.

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